**Farewells**

**Mrs. Nerine Chalmers**   
  
I never for once thought that I would be the one to bid farewell to Mrs. Chalmers, However, here we are today doing exactly that. Mrs. Chalmers joined Clifton School 20 years ago as a teacher working in the Senior Primary Department. – before she was appointed as Deputy Head, a position she has held since 1998. In the early 2000's Mrs. Chalmers moved into the ICT and Library Department and it was here that phenomenal things happened.   
  
Just reflecting on the time that Mrs. Chalmers had been at Clifton, I'm going to do one of those Chappies Bubble Gum Wrapper Things – Did you know that 9point to pupils that none of you were born when Mrs. Chalmers started working at Clifton?   
  
Did you know that the bell outside the school was donated by Mrs. Chalmers's late mom? Mrs. Moffat.  
  
Did you know that Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers's children; Nigel and Shirley both attended Clifton School.   
  
I fear that she may be leaving before she has to teach her grandson???? However a more loyal and devoted Cliftonian, I don't think will be found too easily!   
  
When visiting schools come to Clifton , they always say that everything at Clifton is red; they even say they have to drink red cool drink! WELL I tell you most solemnly that Mrs. Chalmers has been so devoted and committed to Clifton that even her blood is red!!!   
  
I don't think I have ever come across a person who commits so much time and effort, drive and passion in what she does, but also a hard task master who will never let one rest on laurels or get behind the trend but will always be looking to challenge new avenues.   
  
Nerine has certainly been a legend in this respect and leaves behind her a legacy, one in particular, in the form of the Cultural Weekend, which has become infamous throughout Southern Africa .   
  
I could go on extolling her virtues, which would probably only embarrass this modest lady further, but I think that all here today know, respect and appreciate what Nerine has done for Clifton, its staff, parents and pupils and the greater Francistown Community.   
  
I have had the privilege of being very closely associated with Mrs. Chalmers in the management of the school and will always cherish the years together, working to take Clifton into the 21 st Century. I hope that she lives forever, as she has just so much to offer the education fraternity.   
  
Nerine I thank you for the immense input that you have had at Clifton and wish you and Dave well for the new challenges ahead.   
  
We say from home ‘Sala Sentle' and also ‘fee ya mani lla' Ma Salaam, in a language you will soon become familiar with, meaning, I leave you in God's hands, farewell.   
  
(Taken from the farewell speech by Mr. Pautz to Mrs. Chalmers at Final Assembly, Term 2, 2007)  
  
**Mrs. Georgia Smith**   
  
Mrs. Smith has been at Clifton for six years. On her arrival she taught a Standard three and Four Composite Class and later moved to the main stream Standard Four Class where she spent the majority of her teaching days at Clifton . A no nonsense teacher who although demands 100% from her pupils and parents, I might add, also has the softest of hearts when it comes to the welfare of any of her pupils, a side to her that I have witnessed on many occasion whenever one of her pupils had a problem or was distressed by something in their lives.   
  
Mrs. Smith's classes have always been known for hosting the best Greek and Egyptian parties in town. Being part of their annual themes, the Standard Four Classes have often been seeing clad in robes, laurels and wreaths either feasting or competing in an Olympic sport of sorts.   
  
Mrs. Smith's contribution to Clifton has been most significant and I thank her for all she has done for the school and its pupils in her time at Clifton . Mrs. Smith is a dedicated teacher whom we will most certainly miss on the staff. We wish her well for her return to Angola and look forward to her popping in at school when she returns in her holidays.   
  
Sala Sentle Ma Smith!   
  
(Taken from farewell speech by Mr. Pautz to Mrs. Smith at Final assembly, Term 3, 2007)